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**CONGRESSMAN FARR ISSUES STATEMENT ON HOUSE PASSAGE OF FY2012  
'MINIBUS'**

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel) today released the following statement after the House passage of Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Agriculture, Commerce/Justice/Science (CJS), and Transportation/Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bills – also known as the "Mini-bus":

"I am relieved that at a time that families continue to struggle to make ends meet, this bill will protect vital domestic food programs that are keeping food on the tables of millions of families. The bill also makes critical investments in international food programs that are key to international stability and a successful foreign policy.

While I believe this bill is an improvement from its original version, I am disappointed that a 'pizza rule' was added that will predetermine how new regulations can address tomato paste and puree and sodium. Part of raising a healthy generation of Americans, includes providing the right school meals that allow them to lead healthy lives. This provision has taken us a step back away from that goal.

I am encouraged by the bipartisanship that allowed this bill to reach completion, and I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to complete the work ahead of us."

Congressman Sam Farr is the Ranking Member of the Appropriations' Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies.

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